

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1864.

## PROBABLE INCREASE OF SUICIDE.

From the London Standard.  
It seems very probable, we should say it is almost certain, that for some years to come the offence of suicide will increase in Great Britain. The mania for killing oneself remarked during the past month, which has attracted the attention of the police, and induced magistrates to qualify themselves by threatening imprisonment to women who have already died, has not much bearing upon the general question. Moral epidemics of that kind spread as rapidly and uncontrollably as diseases, and are just as little amenable to human control. Suicide sometimes breaks out in a community like scarlet fever, and though society by careful precaution may prevent its recurrence, that particular outbreak can never be arrested or cured. It must just run its course, die away, and then begin again.

But there are general tendencies at work which induce men to suicide for the future much more frequently and which may deserve to be closely watched by the lights of the returns of mortality.

In the first place, the old deterrents to the offence are not half so strong as they were a year ago.

Juries have become not only un-favorable but hostile to the verdicts of *folie de se*, and the ancient fear of the suicide, the something unnatural to happen to his body after death, has disappeared. In a week or two, it seemed it had a good deal of influence, than that of the torchlight, and the stake and all the rest of the ecclesiastical penalties cruel and silly as they were, had great weight with the desponding class which had lost its life. The uneducated really feared them, and the educated did not. The idea of being buried in a ditch like a dog, and the educated, though aware that the body becomes manure and passes into the trees and the grass and flowers, whether in a consecrated ground or at some cross-roads, was still a powerful object such a burial reflected on their relatives. People care about their own corpses, if not from reason then from instinct.

Mr. Charles Nader, who, like most men of genius, is fond of entering into the affairs of people below himself, once attacked a mania for suicide after a fashion very different from Mr. Cooke's. The better class women of Society were then laboring under an astounding rate—200 died in a very few weeks, and the report of their suicide to their relatives, and the relatives to their friends, was a continual source of pain.

Colonel Sanders is charged with the execution of this order.

The order of Brig.-Gen. G. F. Sheppard, Wickham Hoffman, Assistant Adjutant-General.

## GENERAL ORDERS NO. 31.

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF EASTERN VIRGINIA, NORFOLK, Virginia, September 22, 1864.

In pursuance of orders from headquarters department, all persons within the district of Eastern Virginia over sixteen years of age who have not been honorably discharged will be sent outside of the lines.

This order will be carried into effect on and after October 15, 1864.

Major T. H. Clegg, 10th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, will make immediate arrangements to administer the oath, and will afford every facility for this purpose.

Colonel Sanders is charged with the execution of this order.

Brig.-Gen. G. F. Sheppard, Wickham Hoffman, Assistant Adjutant-General.

## GENERAL A. J. SMITH ON THE REBEL LION.

General Andrew J. Smith, who has won for himself in the Southwest a brilliant reputation as a commander, was surrendered in St. Louis on Tuesday night, and made a short speech in response. General Smith is an old army officer, and knows but little about politics; but he thoroughly understands the Rebellion, and knows what is the only remedy for it. He said—

A majority of you have been in the army. If you haven't, you ought to have been there, and have doubtless asked the question, What are we fighting for? (Cries of "The Union.") That's a fact. We are fighting for that, four or five years ago, and have been fighting it ever since, and that our country has been for forty years. I speak of forty years ago, because that was the period of the beginning of internal improvements in the country. But, you know, when you speak of the South, you call it the Southern Confederacy, and it is called the Southern Confederacy, not it into the heads that they wanted an independent Government, and undertook to secede. Now, if we succeed, and do not give up their right to secede, it would not be right, but it would be right, and it would be right, and that is what the result would be, and you know what would be the result.

I say that we have been a happy people. Have you ever, before this war, had to pay one cent more in taxes than you did before? You have not had a heavy, unnecessary tax, you can't tell me that ours has been for forty years. I speak of forty years ago, because that was the period of the beginning of internal improvements in the country. But, you know, when you speak of the South, you call it the Southern Confederacy, and it is called the Southern Confederacy, not it into the heads that they wanted an independent Government, and undertook to secede. Now, if we succeed, and do not give up their right to secede, it would not be right, but it would be right, and it would be right, and that is what the result would be, and you know what would be the result.

The Spanish Ministry has resigned.

The Times argues that the Chicago Convention will lead to peace.

It is stated that Denmark, encouraged by the Western Powers, refuses the cause of North Schleswig, unless sanctioned by the votes of the people.

The resignation of the Spanish Ministry has been accepted.

## Commercial Intelligence.

LIVERPOOL, September 14.—Cotton—Sales of three days, £2,000,000, including £600 to speculators and exporters. The market opened firm, but closed flat and irregular, with a slight decline.

The steamer Kedra arrived out on the 13th.

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